



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1310

DATE: November 5, 2013

TO: Iowa Medicaid Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, Physician Assistants and Dentists

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Payment Program – Pilot for Reporting Clinical Quality Measures (CQM) Electronically

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

The IME is looking for eligible providers (EPs), who are enrolled in the EHR Incentive Program for Meaningful Use (MU), to participate in a pilot program, in the 2014 calendar year, to assist with reporting of clinical quality measures (CQM) via the Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN). The IME uses the Alere Quality Metrics tool to assist with the reporting via the IHIN. This reporting tool will fill a gap for providers who do not have robust CQM reporting capabilities within their EHR system. All MU data submitted will be secure and private to the provider. The IME will have limited access to view the CQM measures results for program administration purposes. The reporting tool may be used to support provider attestation for MU.

The Iowa Medicaid EHR Incentive Program began on January 3, 2011, and was one of the first four states to launch the program. Approximately 1,215 providers have adopted, implemented or upgraded (AIU) an EHR while an estimated 500 providers have met MU Stage 1. One of the requirements of the EPs for Stage 2 MU is to report on nine CQMs through electronic submission.

On September 26, 2012, Informational Letter No. [1177](#) announced a new service offered to providers participating in the EHR Incentive Program for meaningful use Stages 1 and 2. CQMs can be calculated through the IHIN using Direct Secure Messaging and the Alere Quality Metrics tool. This service is currently being used for health homes and is now available to providers in the EHR Incentive Program.

This service is optional for providers participating in the EHR Incentive Program. Providers can submit their data to the IME Alere quality metrics repository for CQM calculation. The submitted Continuity of Care Document (CCD) data is parsed to select the clinical information necessary for reporting the quality measures. This tool also allows providers to view their own CQM reporting results as the data is collected, using easy to read reports and charts. Providers will be able to drill down to view specific patient information to obtain actionable information to improve their CQM results.

For more information on how to get started in this pilot program contact Koreen Rayl, IME Clinical Project Manager, at 515-974-3070 or Rachel Lunsford, Medicaid HIT Incentive Coordinator, at 515-974-2918, or by email at imeincentives@dhs.state.ia.us.